

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/737,549

Examiner

Jeffrey A. Smith

Applicant(s)

LIN ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amend. filed 6/30/05 and Ex. Amend. of 9/16/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 7-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

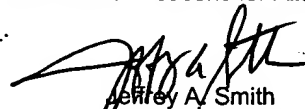
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
Jeffrey A. Smith  
Primary Examiner  
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**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

***In the Claims***

Claim 12 has been amended to read as follows:

--12. The method of claim 1 further comprising an HDI back bone connecting supply chain data of a host server, supply chain data of up-, mid-, and downstream suppliers, and a hub.--

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**EXAMINER'S COMMENT**

Applicant's Remarks filed June 30, 2005 (at page 8) indicate that Applicant has adopted the Examiner's suggested language for claim 12. Applicant's amendment to claim 12 (filed June 30, 2005) contained minor omissions to the Examiner's suggested language (see Office Action mailed April 6, 2005 at page 8), which the Examiner has herein corrected.

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### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

#### Regarding claim 1

The prior art of record neither anticipates nor fairly and reasonably teaches a collaboration commerce trading method completing configure-to-order (CTO) production by ordering a commodity through a network and providing transmissions and responses of the ordering information, the method comprising, *inter alia*, the steps of: transmitting the commodity ordering information through the collaboration server to a plurality of enterprise resource planning (ERP) servers, which include the following recited modules (and their associated functions): the BOM module, the SO module, the WO module, and the PO module; wherein the plurality of ERP servers connect via an ERP backbone to: a SFCS server, an ATP server, and a strategy support server; and returning the customized table list for the customer to confirm.

#### Regarding claim 14

The prior art of record neither anticipates nor fairly and reasonably teaches a method completing configure-to-order (CTO)

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production by ordering a commodity through a network and providing available to promise (ATP) transmissions and responses of the ordering information, the method comprising, *inter alia*, the steps of: obtaining supply information of a product from an enterprise resource planning (ERP) server, which includes the following recited modules (and their associated functions): the BOM module, the SO module, the WO module, and the PO module; wherein the ERP server connect via an ERP back bone to: a SFCS server, an ATP server, and a strategy support server; providing a confirmed sales order (SO) to the customer when the ATP server completes the supply/demand configuration; and estimating an ATP date tot the customer when the ATP server cannot complete the supply/demand configuration.

The most remarkable prior art of record is to Sharp (U.S. Patent No. 6,263,317)

Sharp, when taken alone or in combination, does not teach a work order module, automatically opening a WO, obtaining material configuration information from an ATP server, and generating an E-mail to the customer , checking the preparation status of materials. Moreover, Sharp, when taken alone or in combination, does not teach that an ERP server connects to an ERP back bone to: a shop floor control system (SFCS) server; an

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available to promise (ATP) server; and a strategy support server.

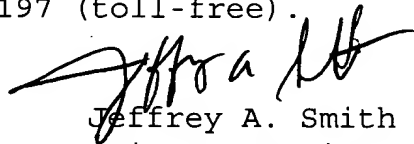
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey A. Smith whose telephone number is (571) 272-6763. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on (571) 272-7159. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jeffrey A. Smith  
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